

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 01743 151033Z

42

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CU-02 HEW-02 IO-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 AID-05 /084 W

----- 013319

R 150930Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO XCSTATE WASHDC 1404

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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3.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SK, IN, NP

SUBJECT: NEPALESE REACTION TO SIKKIM EVENTS

1. IN CONTRAST TO REACTION LAST SUMMER NEPALESE HAVE BEEN QUITE CIRCUMSPECT IN COVERAGE OF RECENT SIKKIM EVENTS. ALTHOUGH DEARTH OF PRESS REACTION IS, IN PART, FUNCTION OF NEW YEAR HOLIDAY PERIOD, OFFICIAL PRESS HAS RELGATED SIKKIM STORY TO BACK PAGES. UNOFFICIAL PRESS HAS YET TO CARRY EDITORIAL COMMENT, ALTHOUGH ONE PAPER (NEW HERALD) DID REPORT PAKISTANI PROTEST.

2. ONE LOCAL SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF THAT POLICE APRIL 11 INFORMED STUDENTS "INFORMALLY" THAT NO DEMONSTRATIONS WOULD BE TOLERATED AND THAT ANY PUBLIC DISPLAY WOULD RESULT IN IMMEDIATE ARREST. ALTHOUGH THIS IS PROBABLY EXAGGERATED ACCOUNT, WE HAVE STRONG IMPRESSION THAT HMG HAS TAKEN STEPS TO ASSURE IT HAS AND KEEPS CONTROL OVER SITUATION.

3. WHILE WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO SAMPLE OFFICIAL

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PAGE 02 KATHMA 01743 151033Z

OPINION, NEPALIS WE HAVE STPOKEN TO HAVE SAID THAT

COMPLETE INCORPORATION OF SIKKIM INTO INDIAN FEDERATION  
CAN COME AS NO SURPRISE TO ANYONE WHO HAS STUDIED INDIAN  
ACTION THERE SINCE 1973.

4. COMMENT: WE DOUBT THAT UNOFFICIAL PRESS WILL REMAIN  
SILENT MUCH LONGER AND EXPECT GOI TO COME UNDER SOME  
ATTACK. HOWEVER, HMG WILL PROBABLY NOT LODGE OFFICIAL  
PROTEST GIVEN SWIFT INDIAN REACTION TO LAST SUMMER'S  
MILD STATEMENTS BY FONMIN. GON AT THIS POINT IS KEEPING  
LOW PROFILE SINCE TO DO OTHERWISE WOULD NOT ALTER  
SITUATION IN GANGTOK AND WOULD ONLY RUN RISK OF FURTHER  
INCURRING INDIAN DISPLEASURE WHICH HAS MANIFESTED ITSELF  
IN NUMEROUS WAYS OVER LAST SIX MONTHS. IN THIS SENSE GON  
HAS APPARENTLY LEARNED LESSON FROM LAST YEAR'S EVENTS;  
THAT IT CAN CONFRONT INDIA ON MATTERS OF POLITICAL  
SENSITIVITY TO GOI ONLY TO ITS PERIL.  
CARGO

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 15 APR 1975  
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